



ANCHORAGE CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE

1016 W. Sixth Avenue, Suite 303

Anchorage, AK 99501

**BLM Alaska State Director**

**OCT 08 2019**

September 19, 2019

Bureau of Land Management  
Alaska State Office  
222 West Seventh Avenue, #13  
Anchorage, AK

As the largest non-trade organization in Alaska, representing over 900 businesses, the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce is fully supportive of job creation and responsible resource development. In earlier correspondence with your office, the Anchorage Chamber has come out in support of National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska (NPR-A) development. The Anchorage Chamber has a 104 year history of supporting responsible resource development and employment growth in Alaska.

ConocoPhillips has a long history of oil field development and production in Alaska, and has been a committed company in building Alaska's economy over their 40 years in Alaska. In our view, ConocoPhillips has a long proven record of environmentally responsible work in Alaska. We appreciate and respect their industry expertise especially with the prospects of their newest investment in the Bear Tooth Unit.

As noted in the Willow Master Development Plan (MDP) Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), ConocoPhillips is recommending Alternative B which is also supported by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). This alternative creates a road connection and greater access for local residents of the area and includes road connections to the Alpine field with less environmental impacts than Alternative C and D.

Support of the development of the Willow Project will include sealifts to move modules and materials. For this critical element for the project ConocoPhillips recommends Option 1 over Option 2. Option 1 makes logistical sense landing the modules and materials closer to the work site versus Point Lonely, which would require the construction and maintenance of an additional 100 miles of ice roads. For those reasons as noted by ConocoPhillips, the Anchorage Chamber is supportive of Option 1.

The economic impacts of the Willow Project to businesses in Anchorage and the rest of Alaska are substantial and needed. There are many benefits to supporting the Willow Project that includes new construction, maintenance jobs with operations that will create up to 300 permanent positions and over 2,000 workers during construction. In short, the end result will produce more oil (projected at 100,000 barrels per day), which could generate billions of dollars collectively for the local, state, and federal government.

We are fortunate to have companies like ConocoPhillips willing to invest in Alaska and that have a long and successful record of responsible development in our state. The Anchorage Chamber of Commerce board of directors fully support Alternative B and Option 1 for development of the Willow project. We are excited about the prospects and for the additional jobs and investment in our economy.

Best regards,



Joy Merriner  
Board of Directors Chair



Bruce Bustamante  
President & CEO